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Preliminary survey of  
waste materials deposited  
at the proposed park site,  
Hamilton Harbour, November  
1984







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**Preliminary Survey of Waste Materials  
Deposited at the Proposed Park Site,  
Hamilton Harbour, November 1984.**

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**Air Resources Branch  
Phytotoxicology Section**

**By: Dr. K. T. Palmer**

**Date: March, 1985**

**ARB No.: ARB-050-85-PHYTO**



AIR RESOURCES BRANCH

Phytotoxicology Section

880 Bay Street, Suite 347

Toronto, Ontario

M5S 1Z8

135 St. Clair Avenue West  
Suite 100  
Toronto, Ontario  
M4V 1P5

135 ouest, avenue St. Clair  
Bureau 100  
Toronto (Ontario)  
M4V 1P5

*Preliminary Survey of Waste Materials Deposited at the  
Proposed Park Site, Hamilton Harbour, November 1984*

On November 29, 1984, 13 stations were sampled at the proposed park site (former Lax property), Hamilton (Figures 1 & 2). The stations were selected using a map provided by the regional office (Figure 1) and during a reconnaissance of the area. With the exception of sites 4 and 5, with site 5 being a control location in the park, the sampling sites were devoid of vegetation. A description of the samples collected (0-15 cm depth) appears in Table 1. No visual assessment of possible phytotoxic effects was made due to the lateness in the season.

Samples were brought back to the Phytotoxicology Laboratory and processed using standard Phytotoxicology procedures. All samples were chemically analyzed for 16 elements listed in Table 2 by the Inorganic Trace Contaminants Section, Laboratory Services Branch of the MOE. Additionally, conductivity and pH analyses were performed in the Phytotoxicology Laboratory.

Results, given in Tables 1 and 2, indicate that the ash, baghouse material, blast furnace sand and other materials contained high and often phytotoxic concentrations of many of the elements (Table 2).

According to Phytotoxicology Section proposed residential Clean-up Criteria (based on potential phytotoxicity, except molybdenum and selenium, which are based on potential toxicity to grazing animals, and lead and cadmium, which are based on human health considerations), 7 of the 13 locations had 3 or more

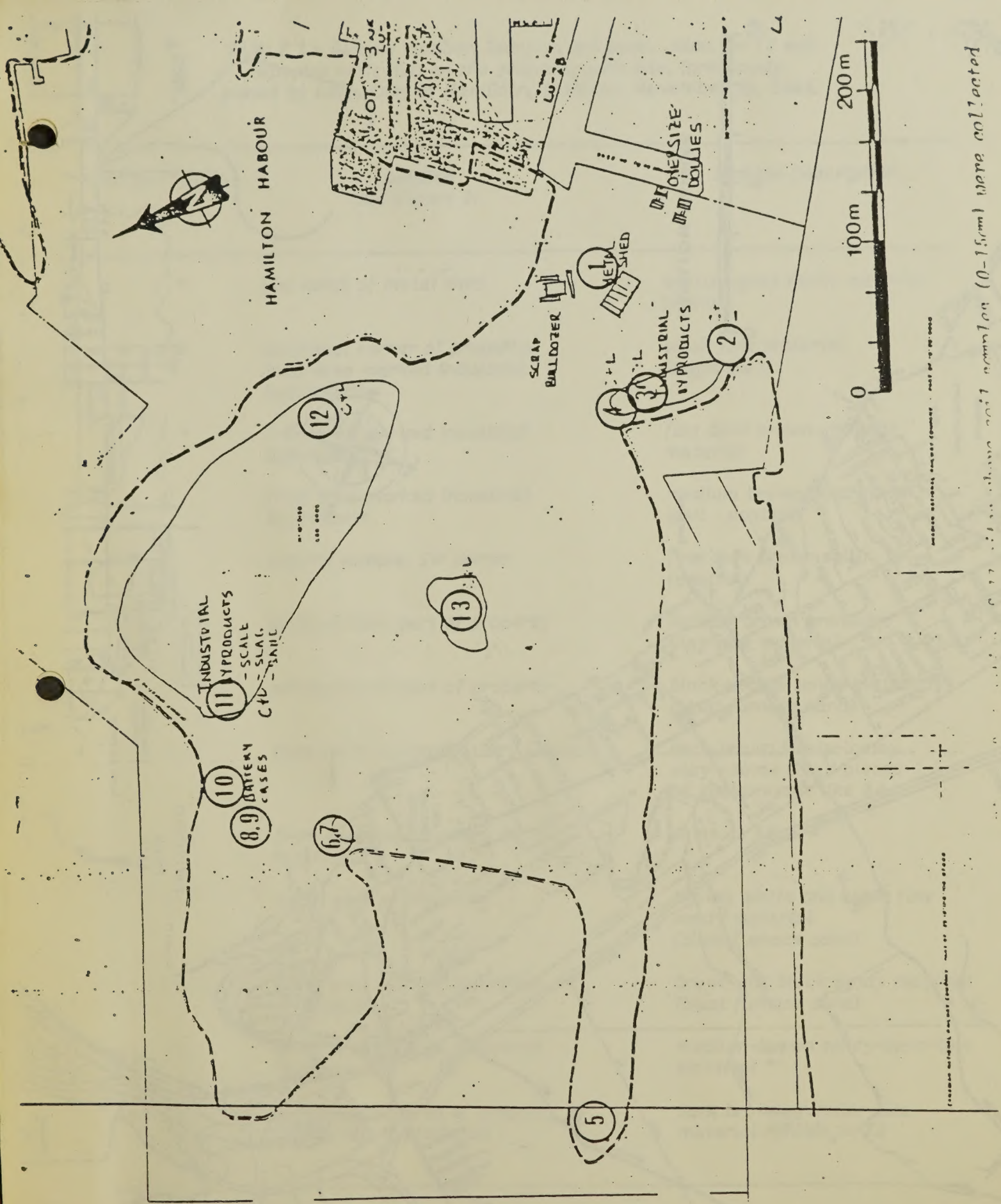




elements present in unacceptably high concentrations. Two additional stations exceeded the Clean-up Criteria for 2 elements. Stations 1,2,3,4, 11, 12 and 13 exceeded both the lead and cadmium Clean-up Criteria. In all, 9 stations (1,2,3,4, 7,10, 11, 12 and 13) had concentrations of 1 or more elements which exceeded the Phytotoxicology Section proposed clean-up criteria for lands slated for residential (unrestricted) development.

Although a clean-up criterion has not yet been established for boron, potentially phytotoxic concentrations ( $> 50$  ppm) of this element were present at Stations 1,2,3,4,11, 12 and 13. Also, Station 1 had an exceptionally high value for aluminum (25%) and a high conductivity (measuring 4.0 millimhos/cm). The pH values, which were slightly alkaline, fell within a range that could support vegetation.

Based on the above findings and in order to avoid possible phytotoxic and human health problems it is recommended that materials from sites 1,2,3,4, 10, 11, 12 and 13 be removed from the park area. Excavation should be based on two factors: the surface area as defined by absence of vegetation and the depth of removal based on the homogeneity of the toxic material. A mixing of the material at station 7 with surrounding soil should be carried out to reduce the chromium, molybdenum and nickel concentrations.



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0-15m were collected







TABLE 1 - Sample number, location and description for 13 soil samples collected on the proposed park site, (previously owned by Lax), City of Hamilton, 0-15 cm, November 29, 1984.

| Sample Number | Location<br>(see Figure 2)                                           | Sample Description                                                      |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 *           | just north of metal shed                                             | whitish-grey sandy material (ash?)                                      |
| 2 *           | southeast corner of property, from area marked Industrial Byproducts | black fine material (baghouse?)                                         |
| 3 *           | from area marked Industrial Byproducts                               | fine dark brown granular material                                       |
| 4             | from area marked Industrial Byproducts                               | medium brown sandy loam (soil - control)                                |
| 5             | control sample, SW corner                                            | fine dark brown soil (control)                                          |
| 6 *           | northwestern part of property                                        | reddish brown granular clay-like material                               |
| 7 *           | northwestern part of property                                        | black coarse sandy material (blast furnace sand)                        |
| 8 *           | from area marked Battery Cases                                       | dark brown sandy-loamy clay - some small pieces of coal present like #4 |
| 9 *           | from area near Battery Cases location                                | same as #6                                                              |
| 10 *          | north edge of property                                               | brown, white and black fine sandy material (blast furnace sand)         |
| 11 *          | from area marked Industrial Byproducts                               | brown and black sandy material (blast furnace sand)                     |
| 12 *          | from area marked Industrial Byproducts                               | medium-brown sandy-loam-like material                                   |
| 13 *          | from central area of property (Industrial Byproducts)                | dark brown granular-like material similar to #3                         |

\* soil does not support vegetation

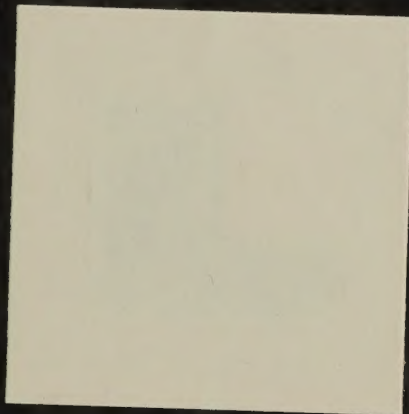


Concentrations \* (dry weight) of 16 elements, conductivity and pH in soil samples (0-15 cm depth) collected from 13 stations at the City of Hamilton proposed park site on November 29, 1994. Due to the high concentration of many of the elements, the values given are approximate.

| Station                      | 1     | 2      | 3      | 4    | 5<br>(control) | 6    | 7    | 8    | 9    | 10   | 11    | 12     | 13    | Upper Limits<br>of Normal<br>(Urban)<br>(0-5 cm depth) | Phyto. Sec.<br>Proposed<br>Clean-up<br>Criteria† |
|------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|------|----------------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|--------|-------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Aluminum                     | 25.0% | 1.0%   | 0.4%   | 0.3% | 1.0%           | 1.0% | 0.5% | 1.0% | 2.1% | 0.1% | 1.6%  | 1.0%   | 0.5%  | -                                                      | -                                                |
| Antimony                     | 13    | 63     | 41     | 3    | 11             | 0.5  | 0.5  | 1.4  | 1.3  | 0.2  | 12    | 89     | 24    | 8                                                      | -                                                |
| Arsenic                      | 3.9   | 96     | 92     | 9.7  | 5.5            | 8.7  | 1.7  | 6.8  | 1.4  | 1.4  | 15    | 87     | 90    | 20                                                     | 25                                               |
| Boron                        | 690   | 12000  | 8200   | 360  | 12             | 34   | 21   | 17   | 46   | 10   | 3300  | 15000  | 3800  | 15                                                     | -                                                |
| Cadmium                      | 28    | 600    | 450    | 16   | 1              | 1.3  | 1.0  | 1.4  | 1.5  | 0.6  | 140   | 460    | 250   | 4                                                      | 4                                                |
| Calcium                      | 0.9%  | 3.5%   | 3.6%   | 4%   | 4.7%           | 3.6% | 1.3% | 2.2% | 3%   | 0.6% | 2.8%  | 3.9%   | 6.4%  | 3%                                                     | -                                                |
| Chromium                     | 220   | 2300   | 2800   | 120  | 16             | 27   | 170  | 20   | 29   | 600  | 310   | 1800   | 2300  | 50                                                     | 1000 (Cr 3+)                                     |
| Copper                       | 7200  | 2200   | 2400   | 110  | 43             | 13   | 43   | 55   | 12   | 19   | 470   | 1900   | 1400  | 100                                                    | 300                                              |
| Iron                         | 1.3%  | 22%    | 31%    | 3.3% | 2%             | 3.4% | 1.1% | 2.2% | 3.8% | 2.4% | 7.7%  | 19%    | 31%   | 3.5%                                                   | -                                                |
| Lead                         | 1800  | 23000  | 19000  | 2000 | 48             | 19   | 50   | 370  | 29   | 21   | 7100  | 20000  | 16000 | 500                                                    | 500                                              |
| Manganese                    | 2000  | 45000  | 57000  | 3100 | 690            | 690  | 1400 | 830  | 740  | 190  | 10000 | 36000  | 47000 | 700                                                    | -                                                |
| Molybdenum                   | 14    | 500    | 250    | 10   | 1              | 1    | 18   | 1    | 2    | 57   | 100   | 500    | 82    | 3                                                      | 5                                                |
| Nickel                       | 130   | 1000   | 230    | 42   | 16             | 28   | 250  | 16   | 29   | 2500 | 230   | 1000   | 200   | 60                                                     | 200                                              |
| Selenium                     | 4     | 3      | 2      | 0.4  | 0.2            | 0.4  | 1.9  | 0.6  | 0.5  | 0.5  | 1.6   | 4.3    | 0.6   | 2                                                      | 5                                                |
| Vanadium                     | 44    | 1000   | 200    | 31   | 23             | 29   | 11   | 26   | 33   | 9    | 200   | 1000   | 100   | 70                                                     | -                                                |
| Zinc                         | 14000 | 280000 | 180000 | 7700 | 140            | 100  | 280  | 250  | 91   | 90   | 69000 | 320000 | 82000 | 500                                                    | 800                                              |
| Conductivity<br>millimhos/cm | 4.0   | 1.2    | 0.3    | 0.3  | 0.3            | 0.1  | 0.1  | 0.2  | 0.1  | 0.1  | 0.2   | 0.4    | 0.3   | 1.5***                                                 |                                                  |
| pH                           | 7.1   | 8.8    | 8.5    | 7.7  | 7.7            | 7.9  | 7.9  | 7.8  | 8.0  | 8.4  | 8.1   | 8.2    | 8.4   |                                                        |                                                  |

\* ppm unless stated in %. \*\* rural guideline. \*\*\* reduction in yield to sensitive species (U.S. Dept. of Agriculture).  
 † for lands slated for residential (unrestricted) development.  
 Note: Underlined results exceed proposed clean-up criteria.





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